

February 11, 2007

Chair Philip Isenberg and Task Force Members
California Resources Agency
1416 9th Street #1311
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Dear Chairman Isenberg,

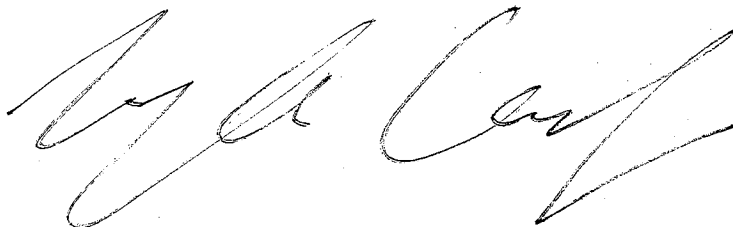
My name is Taylor Coudray and I am writing to you in regards to the Marine Life Protection Act that California is currently under implementation of. I am a student at the University of California, Irvine, and enrolled in a course on the biodiversity and conservation of not just marine species, but all species on this planet. I am writing to you because of the recommended "preferred alternative" that has been mentioned in the Act itself.

The reasoning is simple behind the more conservative plan. I am recommending that the State of California limit the reserves to their fullest capability. The more areas that are protected under the Act, the more biodiversity that can be conserved and the better an ecosystem can recover and develop if it isn't being fished. Also, according to a statement put forth by the governor himself, "Its [The MLPA's] primary goal is to protect marine life and habitats, marine ecosystems and marine natural heritage, as well as improve recreational, educational and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems". This also includes an educational outreach program to local communities. Therefore the plan can benefit both sides.

California's Department of Fish and Game created the Marine Life Protection Act in 1999, and ordered that California create and manage new and improved sets of marine protected areas to not only protect marine life and habitats, but the overall ecosystem of the area. Included in the marine protected areas are reserves, marine parks and conservation areas. The increase in standards for the Act would only help over fished or over gamed areas in the wild. By advocating the "preferred alternative", you can help keep the marine reserves safe and discontinue all commercial use of the areas.

I ask that you, Mr. Chairman, push for the preferred alternative at the upcoming meeting in Bodega Bay. The more voices that are heard on the issue, the more the Commission will become aware of the public's overwhelming support for the proposition on the reserves. It is becoming harder and harder to keep the waters of California clean and biologically isolated as fishing and its consequences further deplete our waters. If we act now, we are able to still allow commercial fishing now, while in the long run, help save the species off of California's coast.

Thank you for your time,



Taylor Coudray

IRVINE, CA